



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Challberg et al.

Art Unit: 3641

Serial No.: 09/597,113

Examiner: J. Keith

Filed: June 20, 2000

For:

CORE CONFIGURATION FOR A :

NUCLEAR ERACTOR

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231, on 12, 12, 2001.

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<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Office Action dated August 13, 2001, Applicants elect species II shown in Figures 4 and 5 for examination. As explained at page 3, lines 3-5 of the present application, the K-lattice configuration shown in Figure 3 is a known configuration. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-13 are readable upon species II. Applicants further elect species B (embodiment wherein the lattice configuration has four fuel bundles in each fuel bundle receiving channel). Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-13 are readable upon species B.

The requirement for election is <u>traversed</u> because the species A, B, and C clearly are related. Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1, 6, and 10 are generic and readable on species A, B, and C. Applicant also submits that a thorough search and examination of species A and C would be relevant to the examination of species B and would not be a serious

burden on the examiner. Additionally, requirements for election are not mandatory under 35

U.S.C. Accordingly, reconsideration of the election requirement is requested.



Respectfully submitted,

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